CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of adapting a transaction-based application to process transactions over a network, said transaction-based application comprising source code describing a transaction and information related to the transaction, hereinafter related information, said method comprising the steps of :

scanning the source code of the transaction-based application to identify the transaction and the related information;

storing the related information in a database;

extracting from the database parameter definitions describing communication of information by the transaction;

identifying a parameter usage type for each parameter, said parameter usage type selectable from the parameter usage type set comprising input, output, input/output, and unreferenced;

displaying the transaction and a subset of the related and extracted information;

allowing a user to select the transaction; and

using the identified and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool.

Sub A1

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the compatible form comprises a parsable file containing information which can be parsed by a connector building tool.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of generating a documentation file describing the parsable file.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the documentation file comprises field description information and connection information.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of using the identified and extracted information to build a connector.

6. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of using the identified and extracted information to build an enterprise Java bean connector.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the database can be queried to find program parts comprising the transaction-based application and identify relationships between the program parts.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the related information is a member of the set comprising relationships, call hierarchies, transactions, communication areas, parameters, the flow of data elements, and resources employed.

9. An article of manufacture for use in a computer system for adapting a transaction-based application to process transactions over a network, said transaction-based application comprising source code describing a transaction and information related to the transaction, hereinafter related information, said article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable storage medium having a computer program embodied in said medium which causes the computer system to execute the method steps comprising:

scanning the source code of the transaction-based application to identify the transaction and the related information;

storing the related information in a database;

extracting from the database parameter definitions describing communication of information by the transaction;

identifying a parameter usage type for each parameter, said parameter usage type selectable from the parameter usage type set comprising input, output, input/output, and unreferenced;

displaying the transaction and a subset of the related and extracted information;

allowing a user to select the transaction; and

using the identified and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool.

10. The article of manufacture of claim 9 wherein the compatible form comprises a parsable file containing information which can be parsed by a connector building tool.

11. The article of manufacture of claim 10 wherein the method steps further comprise the step of generating a documentation file describing the parsable file.

12. The article of manufacture of claim 11 wherein the documentation file comprises field description information and connection information.

13. The article of manufacture of claim 9 wherein the method steps further comprise the step of using the identified and extracted information to build a connector.

Sub A1

14. The article of manufacture of claim 13 wherein the method steps further comprise the step of using the identified and extracted information to build an enterprise Java bean connector.

15. The article of manufacture of claim 9 wherein the database can be queried to find program parts comprising the transaction-based application and identify relationships between the program parts.

16. The article of manufacture of claim 9 wherein the related information is a member of the set comprising relationships, call hierarchies, transactions, communication areas, parameters, the flow of data elements, and resources employed.

17. A computer system for adapting a transaction-based application to process transactions over a network, said transaction-based application comprising source code describing a transaction and information related to the transaction, hereinafter related information, said computer system comprising :

a scanner for scanning the source code of the transaction-based application to identify the transaction and the related information;

storage for storing the related information in a database;

a query for extracting from the database parameter definitions describing communication of information by the transaction;

an identifying computer program for identifying a parameter usage type for each parameter, said parameter usage type selectable from the parameter usage type set comprising input, output, input/output, and unreferenced;

a display for displaying the transaction and a subset of the related and extracted information;

an interface allowing a user to select the transaction; and

a packaging computer program which uses the identified and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool.

18. The computer system of claim 17 wherein the compatible form comprises a parsable file containing information which can be parsed by a connector building tool.

19. The computer system of claim 18 further comprising a documentation file describing the parsable file.

20. The computer system of claim 19 wherein the documentation file comprises field description information and connection information.

21. The computer system of claim 17 further comprising a connector builder which uses the identified and extracted information to build a connector.

Sub A1

22. The computer system of claim 21 wherein the connector builder uses the identified and extracted information to build an enterprise Java bean connector.

23. The computer system of claim 17 wherein the database can be queried to find program parts comprising the transaction-based application and identify relationships between the program parts.

24. The computer system of claim 17 wherein the related information is a member of the set comprising relationships, call hierarchies, transactions, communication areas, parameters, the flow of data elements, and resources employed.